way of delayed landings and off-take, wastage of fuel and risk to passengers etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The radar installed at IGI airport was unserviceable from 0005 hours on 25th January to 1855 hours on 29th January, 1998. This radar of Telefunken make was installed on 19th January, 1973. Since the radar is more than 20 years old, sometimes problems occur in its working. Flights are delayed marginally in the absence of the radar, but safety of aircraft or passenger is not compromised.

Introducing more flights from Hyderabad

2920. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce more flights from Hyderabad to various places in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Hyderabad is, at present, directly connected to Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Calcutta, Nagpur, Bhubaneswar, Vizag and Tirupati by Indian Airlines/Alliance Air/ Jet Airways flights. Additional connections can be considered by the airline operators who are free to operate air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability subject to compliance of route dispersal guidelines issued by the Government.

Concession in air Fares to senior Citizens

2921. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines gives concessions in air fare to citizens above 70 years of age;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is proposed to reduce the age to 65 years and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines offers 50% discount to all Senior Citizens who have completed 65 years of age and are residents of India. The discount is available for travel in Economy Class on domestic sectors of the Indian Airlines.

Upgradation of Agartaia Airport

2922. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that previous Government had decided to upgrade the

Agartaia Airport for landing of larger aircraft and also providing night landing facilities;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) by when Government propose to complete the work of upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (c) Airport Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken expansion and modification of terminal building at Agartaia airport at a cost of Rs. 16.24 crores. This work is likely to be completed by December, 1999. Night landing facilities at Agartaia airport are already available. AAI also has plans to extend the runway from 6000 ft. to 7500 ft. Land is being acquired by the State Government for this purpose.

Upgradation of Nagpur Airport

2923. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the modernisation and upgradation work of Nagpur Airport in Maharashtra has been completed;